Opening up of Institutes in Tamil Nadu

4032. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government proposes to open any new Central University, National Institute of Technology and Indian Institute of Management in Tamil Nadu; and

(b)if so, the details thereof, including the time by when they are proposed to be set up and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATID. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b)The Eleventh Five Year Plan, approved by the National Development Council, includes, *inter-alia,* the setting up of two Central universities, including one aiming at achieving world class standards, and one Indian Institute of Management in Tamil Nadu.

Private sector participation in higher education

4033. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister has finally agreed to a public-private partnership and increased private sector participation in higher education;

(b) if so, whether UGC, has developed an action plan/strategy, which acknowledges the need for a policy for involving private sector in financing higher education, and has also stressed the need to ensure quality; and

(c) if so, the concrete measures and steps the Ministry is considering to take for greater private sector participation in higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is currently no bar to private participation in the Education sector. The National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) encourages non-governmental and voluntary effort in Education, while preventing the establishment of institutions which intend to commercialize Education. The Policy envisages that "in the interest of maintaining standards and for several other valid reasons, the commercialization of technical and professional education will be curbed. An alternative system will be devised to involve private and voluntary effort in this sector of Education, in conformity with accepted norms and goals". There is already not for profit private investment in all sectors of education and the share of such private investment is progressively growing, starting from Primary to Higher and Technical Education.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), UGC has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. K.B. Power, former Secretary General of Association of Indian Universities, to formulate an Action Plan for identifying various modes of public-private participation to promote Higher Education.

Target under SSA

4034. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: